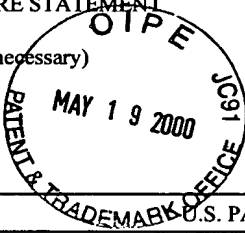


Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. JAO 40499		APPLICATION NO. 09/077,029	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Mutsumi KIMURA et al.			
<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>				FILING DATE May 18, 1998		GROUP 3726 2871	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
wjm	5,274,481	12/1993	KIM			
wjm	5,399,390	3/1995	AKINS			
wjm	3,792,308	2/1974	OTA			
wjm	5,317,169	5/1994	NAKANO et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS		
EP 0 732 868 A1	9/1996	EUROPE				
EP 0 717 439 A2	6/1996	EUROPE				
JP-A-3-192334	8/1991	JAPAN				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						

EXAMINER <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Walter Malinowski</div>	DATE CONSIDERED <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Sept. 18, 2000</div>
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Mutsumi KIMURA and Hiroshi KIGUCHI			
				FILING DATE May 18, 1998		GROUP 2871	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
wjm wjm wjm		JP-A-5-283166	10/1993	Japan			
		JP-A-6-308312	11/1994	Japan			
		JP-A-1-140188	06/1989	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
Examiner: Walter Malinowski				Sept. 18, 2000			
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